ONGC operations in Mehsana district

3314. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM *i* AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to slate:

(a) whether Government's; attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the Economic Times of 24th July, 1988 regarding the study conducted by Lok Vikas highlighting the destruction of valuable land and the problems created for the local farmers due to the ONGC operations in Mehsana district; and

(b) if so, what are the details$_s$ in tins regard and the manner in which Government propose to solve the problem and redness the grievances of the farmers and others affected by the ONGC operations in Mehsana district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINIS IRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAs (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Payment of compensation to tend owners is being made as determined by th^ revenue aut'nori!ies of the State Government. ONGC's operations are being carried out strictly as per Mines and Safety •rules and it has support from the Gujarat Pollution Control Board for its operations. The reasonability rff the demand^ of the farmers for increasing the rate of compensation in Mehsana district is under study hy the Revenue Department $_0$f the Stale Government.

World Bank aid for MMdnmir Thermal Power Project

.1315. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY; Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed World Bank aid for the Muddanur Thermal Power Project in Andhra Pradesh has been received by Government: and

ib) if so. what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): rat No. Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

World Bank concern over NTPC overdoes

3316. SHRI | KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Wilt the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank has indicated that future funding of the National Thermal Power Corporation would depend on the recovery of . the dues by the Corporation from the State Electricity Boards and that the NTPC has requested the Central Government for assistance i_D the matter;

(b) if SL». what is the quantum of of World Bank assistance to the NTPC;

(c) whut is the annual percentage of recovery of the amount overdue by the NTPC from the State Electricity Boards and what is the outstanding amount at the end ot 1987;

(d) what are the reasons for the low recovery of due., by the NTPC; and

(e) the manner in which Government propose to solve the problem of accumulation of art ears by the State Electricity Boards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): a! and (b) Concern has been expressed over the arrears of the N tional Thermal Powe- Corporation (NTPC) in respect of sales of power to the Sate Electricity Boards etc. The NTPC have sought assistance of the government in this regard. World Bank assistance to the on-going projects of NTPC amounts to about US $ 3862 million.

(c) and (d) As on 31st December. 1987. the arrears of the Electricity Boards were Rs 251.52 crores. The annual percentage *oi* recovery from the Boards was 88 per cent in 1986-87. 91 per cent in 1987-88 and 76 per cent in 1988-89 (upto July. 1988). The financial constraints of the Boards are indicated as a major reason for the arrears,

(e) The NTPC are pursuing the recovery of their dues with the State Electricity Boards and Undertakings concerned. The matter is also being followed up with the State Governments etc. concerned who have been advised to expedite liquidation of the arrears and to open Letters of Credit for payment of the dues.

Import of L.P.G.

3317. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are import ing LPG and if so, since when;

(b) whether Government proptose to increase the import of LPG during the current financial year and to what extent;

(c) what is the cost of import bill for LPG during the last three years (yearwise); and ,

(d) what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) (a) The import of LPG was started in the year 1979-80.

(b) to (d) The details regarding the import of LPG during last three years is indicated below:

Qty. : '000 tonnes

Value Rs./lakhs

	Quanti ty	Value
1985-86 .	32	1090
1986-87 .	22	409
1987-8* . (Provisional)	152	4501

Power consumption by agricultural sector

3318. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased t_0 state:

(a) what percentage of energy is utilised by the agricultural sector in the country at present; and

(b) what are the proposals to enhance the share of power consumption in agricultural sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP-NATH RAI): (a) According t_0 the thirteenth power survey committee report, the percentage of energy utilised by the agri-cultural sector during 1987-88 was estimated to be 18.12 per cent.

(b) The supply of power to various cat-egories of consumers is decided by the State authorities keeping in view the overall demand for power and its availability. Tb_e states have been advised from time to time to give priority to the supply of power t_D the agricultural sector.

Request of Punjab State Electricity Board for loan

3319. SHRT PAWAN KUMAR BAN SAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY te pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Finance Corpo ration has received a request from Punja!-State Electricity Board for loan for impr-ovement of the distribution system in urban areas.

(b) if so, what are the details theretaf; and

(c) what action has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP-NATH RAI): (a) and (b) Power Finance Corporation had received proposals from 'he Punjab State Electricity Board for financial assistance for improving the distribution system in Amritsar, Batala, Ludhiana and Pathankot.